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dresses delivered before the Workingmen's Institute at Brighton; — the first an opening address upon the formation of the Institute, setting forth the objects for which it was formed, the means by which they might be best carried out, and the dangers to be avoided in its management; and the other delivered at a time when internal dissensions were threatening its continued existence. A considerable minority of the members had sought to introduce into the library of the Institute books believed by the majority, and by most of the friends of the enterprise, to be of pernicious tendency. In this conjuncture Mr. Robertson voluntarily came forward with an earnest and manly address to the members, which shows at once the depth of his own convictions, the generosity of his nature, and his unabated interest in the success of the Institute. Next we have two judicious and well-considered Lectures on the Influence of Poetry on the Working Classes, discussing the nature of poetry, and the manner in which it influences and elevates men in general, and workingmen in particular. The last of the more elaborate addresses in the volume is an appreciative lecture on the poetry of Wordsworth, which Mr. Robertson appears to have studied thoroughly, and to have admired with his whole heart. The last fifty pages comprise several brief speeches, and the notes of an address on the Working Classes. In all, we see the earnest and conscientious thinker bringing to the task before him the results of patient reflection, and clothing the whole in language of beauty and force, with no selfish ambition to gratify, but simply intent upon performing his duties in the most efficient manner, and amply satisfied with being in some degree helpful to others.

We are gratified to learn from a foot-note to the Preface, that a volume of "Letters on Theological, Philosophical, and Social Questions" is in the course of preparation for the press.

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6. — *A Complete Collection of the English Poems which have obtained the Chancellor's Gold Medal in the University of Cambridge.* New and Enlarged Edition. Cambridge [England]: Macmillan & Co. 1859. 16mo. pp. 351.

THE Chancellor's Gold Medal in the University of Cambridge was first given in 1813; and in the forty-six years which have since elapsed, some of the most eminent statesmen and scholars in England have received this mark of distinction before leaving the University. Among the most celebrated names on the list are those of Dr. Whewell, Lord Macaulay, W. M. Praed, Sir E. B. Lytton, Dr. Christopher Wordsworth, and Alfred Tennyson; and several of the poems would do no

dishonor to men of much riper years than were the recipients when they won their first youthful honors. In other cases the merits of the verse are by no means conspicuous; and it is evident that there was but little competition, or that the standard by which the examiners measured the excellence of the poems could not have been very high. Nevertheless, the volume possesses a special interest, as a collection of the earliest productions of men who have since become eminent in so many different departments of literary endeavor. Most of the pieces are characterized by smoothness of versification rather than by depth or originality of thought. Perhaps the best piece, as a whole, is Tennyson's *Timbuctoo* which received the prize in 1829, although some of the other poems contain more striking passages. It may be worth noticing, that in several instances the medal was more than once adjudged to the same person. Thus Lord Macaulay was successful in 1819 and again in 1821, Praed in 1823 and 1824, Dr. Christopher Wordsworth in 1827 and 1828, W. C. Kinglake in 1830 and 1832, and one competitor, Edward H. Bickersteth, obtained the prize for three successive years, 1844, 1845, and 1846. During the whole time there have been but three years in which the medal was not adjudged to some competitor.

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7. — *A History of the Knights of Malta, or the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem.* By MAJOR WHITWORTH PORTER, Royal Engineers. London: Longman, Brown, Green, Longmans, and Roberts. 1858. 2 vols. 8vo. pp. xvi. and 518, 522.

THIS work is the fruit of original research, and is in several respects an important contribution to historical literature. Its author's residence in Malta gave him access to numerous unpublished documents in the Record Office, and to the valuable collections in the Public Library of the island; and from personal friends who have made the subject a special study he also received much assistance. The result is a thorough and careful account of the internal condition and the foreign relations of the Order, from its formation in the eleventh century to its inglorious expulsion from Malta by the French under Bonaparte in 1798, in the time of Ferdinand de Hompesch, the sixty-ninth Grand-Master. In this long period it underwent some important modifications and passed through various fortunes, gradually changing its character from a mere charitable body of religious men to a great military and political organization, and transferring its principal field of operations from the plains of Palestine to the Mediterranean Sea. Through all these changes Major Porter conducts his readers, illustrating each successive